Attorney Docket No. 990587C3/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Naoki TAJIMA et al.

To be assigned (Continuation Serial No.

of USSN 10/303,423, filed

November 25, 2002)

Concurrently herewith Filed

For IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Prior

2861 Art Unit

Prior

: H. C. Pham Examiner

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. BOX 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Nalini P.

In the event that this Paper is late filed. and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith. please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the

extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

REMARKS AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

Remarks on the present Continuation Application are set forth on page 2 of this paper.

An Information Disclosure Statement is set forth on page 3 of this paper.

REMARKS

The present application is a Continuation of application Serial No. 10/303,423, which was filed November 25, 2002. The specification of the present application is the same as the specification of parent application Serial No. 10/303,423 except for page 1 which has been amended to indicate that the present application is a Continuation of application Serial Number 10/303,423 and also to update the other cross-reference information.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Submitted herewith is a Form PTO/SB/08A listing the particulars of the documents cited by the Applicant and by the Examiner in parent application Serial No. 10/303,423, and which were made "of record" in said parent application.

Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are not supplied herewith, as per 37 CFR 1.98(d), which was effective March 16, 1992. Copies of publications listed in an Information Disclosure Statement are not required to be provided if the information was cited or submitted in a prior application. The present application properly identifies prior parent application Serial No. 10/303,423, filed

November 25, 2002, and relies upon said prior parent application for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the publications identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A submitted herewith and make them of record, as in the parent application.

It is further requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that all of the publications listed therein have been made of record.

The references cited in the parent application are all relevant since they are "of record" in the parent application of which the present application is a Continuation.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Holtz Reg. No. 33,902

Dated: October 24, 2003

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^{*} EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE MAILED: October 24, 2003

Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.